

## City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee

### Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2005

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The City of Takoma Park Safe Roadways Committee met on Thursday, September 8, 2005 in the Municipal Building, 7500 Maple Avenue, Takoma Park, Maryland.

**Members Present:** Greg Castano, Michael Goodno (Acting Chair), Steve Moody, Suzanna Banwell, Laurie Kelly, Robert Patten

**Members Absent:** Sanjay Grover, Katherine Kelly

**Staff Present:** Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

**Others Present:** Andy Keleman, Jay Lee, David Suls (Associate Planner with the City)

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#### 1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 6:35. ~

#### 2. Approval of Minutes: vote on reading, vote on adoption

The minutes were adopted unanimously with minor amendments.

#### 3. Brief Announcements / Updates

Walkable Communities Workshops. State Highway is sponsoring four workshops over two days in the City (Takoma Junction, Piney Branch, Flower, and Langley Park). Committee recommended that the workshop should build on the Walkability Audit by Dan Burden in the summer of 2003. The Committee would like to be a signature on the invitation letter. The Committee would like to be consulted in planning workshops with the community. The Committee will remind council members to invite community member to come to the workshops and would also perhaps be available to put up posters or hand out flyers. Suggested an announcement on Perils to Pedestrians.

#### 4. Action Items

Officer Election: Motion to move it to the next meeting, motion passed.

Recommending projects for pedestrian safety money: Mike Goodno took the priority list and added the Council's input to it. Suggestion that the Committee take a position on the Metro Station. It was pointed out that the City funds should be spent on areas inside Takoma Park where the City does not need to coordinate with other agencies. A pilot project to implement Dan Burden's recommendations on Maple Avenue was suggested. A discussion of which items on the

priority list would be entirely within the City's jurisdiction and feasible to implement with the 25K in the Pedestrian Safety budget ensued, with staff input. The following items were raised:

- "sharrow" a bicycle symbol with two chevrons overtop to indicate share the lane with bicycles. These also have the added benefit of causing bikers to ride further from parked cars (dooring or the sudden opening of a door from a parked car is a significant hazard to bikers). Suggested location: Maple Avenue which is too narrow for lanes between Sligo Creek and Philadelphia, with expansion to other streets in future years.
- Bike racks – install bike racks in commercial areas throughout the City.
- Bus Information – install holders and information on bus routes and schedule at all bus stops or selected lines throughout the City.
- Back in diagonal parking striping on Maple Avenue.

Staff noted that Safe Routes to Schools, public outreach events, and participation in a Bike to Work Day has not been discussed at the staff level. In addition there is no Citywide crosswalk policy. Staff is starting preliminary research on sidewalk policies, bus information, and requesting funds for ADA compliance plan (FY07), a comprehensive plan for Maple Avenue (FY07), and to complete pedestrian safety changes and beautification for Carroll Avenue (FY06).

Staff will develop cost estimates for each of the items suggested for the Pedestrian Safety Funds for the next meeting. Staff will also ask for a description of the scope of work that the parking consultant is performing around the Community Center.

The Committee would like to make a decision at the next meeting and would also like to discuss ideas for policies to take a position on as a committee at the next meeting.


## **5. Adjourn**

**Respectfully Submitted**



Ilona Blanchard, Senior Planner

**Approved**

  
Mike Goodno, Vice-Chair